

The Kootenai National Forest has cabin and lookout rentals, group day use sites and two campgrounds that offer some sites for reservations. These sites can be reserved online:

www.Recreation.gov
1-877-444-6777

For more information on rentals see:
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/kootenai/>

or contact Three Rivers Ranger District at 406-295-4693



BE BEAR AWARE

For your safety PLEASE keep a clean camp. Proper Storage of Food and Sanitation Required.

The safety of others depends upon you!

For Wildlife Information Visit www.lwrf.org
www.bebearaware.org
www.lgbconline.org

| Seasonally Designated Roads | | |
|--|--|---------------|
| Route Numbers | Legend | Dates Allowed |
| 14704, 14704A, 398, 4041, 4628, 473, 4739, 8012, 8012A | Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation | 05/01 - 11/30 |
| 2338 | Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation | 07/01 - 11/30 |
| 4602, 4610 | Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation | 07/01 - 10/14 |
| 471, 6885 | Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation | 06/01 - 03/31 |



The TIP-MONT (Turn in Poachers Montana) program was established in 1985 to protect Montana's fish, wildlife, parks, and forest resources. This program gives you an opportunity to help protect these resources. If the information you provide leads to an arrest, you could be eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000.

Resource violations are serious crimes and you can help stop them. Violators, such as poachers and vandals deplete the fish and wildlife populations and destroy precious, natural habitat. Anyone can help Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks by using our toll-free number: (800) TIP-MONT (800-847-6668).

Other useful numbers:
Game Warden 406-250-1872
Montana FW&P Kalispell 406-752-5501
MT Highway Patrol 1-800-525-5555
Report a Fire 911
Montana Road Information 511

Cabinet Mountains Wilderness

The following acts are prohibited within the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness on National Forest lands:

Traveling or engaging in activities by **more than 8 persons** unless authorized by permit (36 CFR 261.58(f)).

Traveling or engaging in activities with **more than 8 head of stock** or more than one and one-half head of stock per person unless authorized by permit. A person traveling alone is permitted two head of stock (36 CFR 261.55(c)).

Building, maintaining, attending or using an **open fire or campfire** at **Lower Geiger Lake** (36 CFR 261.52(a)).

Camping overnight at Leigh Lake (36 CFR 261.58(a)).

Possessing or using a saddle pack or draft animal on Trail #132 to Leigh Lake; Trail #924 from Upper Wanless Lake (Lake 4) to main Wanless Lake; Trail #646 within the St. Paul Lake Basin, and within the Big Bear Lake Basin (36 CFR 261.55(c)).

The possession or storage of hay, grain, straw, cubes, pelletized feed or mulch that is **not certified as being noxious weed seed free** by an authorized State Department of Agriculture; each individual bale or container must be tagged or marked as weed free (CFR 261.58(i)).

Possessing or using a bicycle, wagon, cart, or other vehicle (including "game carts") (CRF 261.57(h)).

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by fine of not more than \$5000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 6 months or both, under authority of 16 USC 551.



Help Prevent Wildfires

Smokey Says:

NEVER leave your CAMPFIRE UNATTENDED.
Make sure your CAMPFIRE is DEAD OUT before leaving it.

Please remember a SHOVEL and BUCKET are REQUIRED when using a CAMPFIRE.

FIREWOOD PERMITS

Personal use firewood permits are available for purchase at any District office & must be in your possession when cutting firewood on National Forest lands. You are required to keep roadways clear of debris so others may safely pass. It is your responsibility to obey all fire prevention regulations and carry with you all **required safety equipment**.

A permit is NOT required for gathering small amounts of firewood for incidental use while camping or transporting wood back to your campsite.

OHV LICENSE & REGISTRATION

All motorized users are responsible for knowing where, when and how they are authorized to travel on public lands. All motorized users should obtain the latest Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) for National Forest System roads, trails and areas designated open to wheeled motorized use. All OHV's operated on forest and county roads **must** be street legal and OHV's on designated trails must have an OHV decal. Please contact the Three Rivers Ranger District for further details on motorized use.

NATIONAL FOREST STORE

The National Forest Store now offers secure on-line sales through our partner, the National Forest Foundation. You can purchase a map for any National Forest online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/nationalforeststore/> or by calling 406-329-3024.

What can I do on National Forest Land?

Brochures and information on recreation opportunities, as well as rules and regulations specific to the Kootenai National Forest are available at all Forest Service offices.

Camping Stay Limits

Camping in undeveloped or developed areas in excess of 14 days at any one campsite within any 30-day period, or leaving any equipment unattended for more than 24 hours is prohibited. Any camp relocated within a 5-mile radius shall be considered the same camp for day limit restrictions.

Campgrounds on the Kootenai National Forest will continue to be open as in previous years. Many have gates that will be closed at the end of the summer-fall recreation season, and not re-opened until the next spring.

Wheeled motorized vehicle travel for camping is allowed within 300 feet of designated system routes as shown on the MVUM as long as: no new permanent routes are created; no damage to existing vegetation, soil or water resource occurs; travel off-route does not cross streams; or travel off-route does not cross riparian or wet areas.

Other Activities

Activities such as firewood gathering, mineral permits, and Christmas tree cutting are managed by a special permit system. If the permit does not specify that wheeled motor vehicles are allowed for that activity, then using a motor vehicle to carry out such activities is governed by the Motor Vehicle Use Map.

Firewood cutting is prohibited: within 100' of any running stream, pond, lake, marshy or wet area; in active timber sale units; in signed areas prohibiting it; on signed, tagged, or standing dead trees or down logs marked with paint.

BURNING

Before burning MAY 1ST - SEPTEMBER 30th

Call the Three Rivers Ranger District at 295-7558 for a burn permit. You need a new permit every year.

For current air quality restrictions call 1-800-225-6779 or check the Air Quality website at: www.smokemu.org. Click on Dispersion. Look under Burn Recommendations for Montana. Air Shed 1 is the air shed for Lincoln County.

| Month | Burning Restrictions | Comments |
|-----------|------------------------|---|
| January | No Burning Allowed | Air shed restrictions |
| February | No Burning Allowed | Air shed restrictions |
| March | Open Burning | Use caution when burning |
| April | Open Burning | Use caution when burning |
| May | Permit Required | Contact Troy Ranger District |
| June | Permit Required | Contact Troy Ranger District |
| July | Permit Required | Contact Troy Ranger District |
| August | Permit Required | Contact Troy Ranger District |
| September | Permit Required | Contact Troy Ranger District for permit and air shed restrictions |
| October | Permit May Be Required | Contact Troy Ranger District for permit and air shed restrictions |
| November | Open Burning | Contact Troy Ranger District for air shed restrictions |
| December | No Burning Allowed | Air shed restrictions |



Don't burn when it's windy. Check the weather forecast for the next few days. Insure that you have equipment and personnel to control the fire. Dry fine fuel, like grass and pine needles burn and spread quickly. Before you leave, put your fire out. Caution large materials (stumps, etc.) may burn for weeks and months.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE AND LIABLE IF YOUR FIRE ESCAPES

Why Are Noxious Weeds a Problem?

Noxious weeds degrade the environment and wildlife habitat by reducing native forage, and other native plants. They also can increase soil erosion, and lower water quality. Although many weeds are pretty, their negative effects on the environment and the economy are substantial. Because most noxious weeds have come from other countries, there are few, if any natural controls to keep weed populations from taking over once they get established.

What can you do to reduce the spread of weeds?

- 1) Keep your vehicle and recreation gear clean of weeds and seeds.
- 2) Don't drive through or park in weed patches. Weeds or their seeds can get caught in the undercarriage, grill, bumper or tires and transported to new locations.
- 3) Don't take vehicles behind locked gates, or off-road (this is illegal, too).
- 4) Use weed seed free feed for your stock.
- 5) Don't pick weed seeds off your clothes or pets and throw them on the ground. Dispose of them properly.
- 6) Don't pick weed "bouquets" and take them home or to your campsite.

Your help is appreciated!

For more information contact: Three Rivers Ranger District at (406) 295-4693

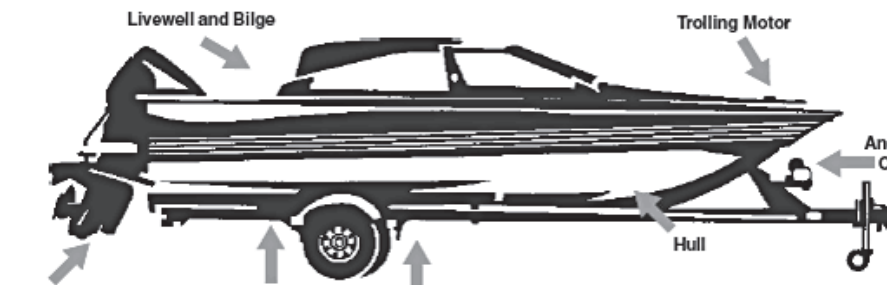
Please don't Spread Invasive Aquatic Weeds!

You may be helping the enemy...

Purple loosestrife, Eurasian watermilfoil and yellow flag iris are three invasive species that may be unknowingly transporting from one place to another. These harmful species can cling to boats, motors, waders, fishing equipment, and watercraft. Anything that touches the water has the potential to pick up these unwanted travelers.

Clean your gear to prevent their spread:

- ☐ Wash all equipment and gear, use hot water if you can. Allow it to dry out.
- ☐ Drain your live well, transom, bilge and areas that might contain contaminated water.
- ☐ Thoroughly clean your boat, water craft and trailer.



TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES CALL:

Lincoln County Weed District
406-293-7781 ext 260
or
Three Rivers Ranger District 406-295-4693

OTHER CONTROL METHODS: Other control methods include mechanical harvesting or rototilling, hand pulling, bottom screening (using screens to block light from plants), and herbicide application. All of these methods have benefits and impacts, and can effectively manage populations of Eurasian watermilfoil. But management of this species is expensive, and eradication of this species once established is very unlikely. Prevention is the cheapest and most effective way to manage watermilfoil.

ERADICATION AFTER INTRODUCTION IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE!

MILFOIL MAKES GREAT COMPOST

Because milfoil is high in nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and calcium it makes good composting material. If milfoil is dried for 3 to 4 days, it can be mulched directly into the soil. TAKE CARE...even dried, milfoil will regenerate if re-introduced to water.

Web sites:
www.fish.washington.edu/naturemapping/water
<http://invasive.dbs.unm.edu>

Each milfoil leaf is made up of pairs of small leaflets. A Eurasian watermilfoil leaf has 12 to 24 pairs of leaflets; a native leaf has only 6 to 9 pairs. The upper portion of the Eurasian watermilfoil plant often develops a reddish color. Eurasian watermilfoil has a firm, more feathery appearance. Eurasian watermilfoil's leaves collapse around the stem when removed from water.

WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT?

PREVENTION: Spread the word, not the weed. Pick off every fragment you find on your boat or trailer (put them in a garbage can). If you see Eurasian watermilfoil on someone else's boat or trailer, help them clean off the pieces. Remember...a lake can become infested by just one fragment.

WHAT IS EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL?

Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is an extremely aggressive non-native aquatic weed once sold in this country as an aquarium plant. Its dense weed beds grow rapidly, choke native plants and spread easily to new areas. Watermilfoil currently flourishes in Idaho, Washington and British Columbia. It is a serious threat to our rivers and lakes.

Watermilfoil was accidentally introduced to North America from Europe. Its introduction westward into inland lakes and streams is primarily attributed to boats, with some spreading caused by water birds.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

Once introduced into a river or lake, watermilfoil rapidly forms thick mats that severely hamper swimming, boating, and fishing. On some stretches of the Pend Oreille River in Washington, navigation and recreation have become virtually impossible. Watermilfoil has also caused drownings by tangling swimmers in the thick beds.

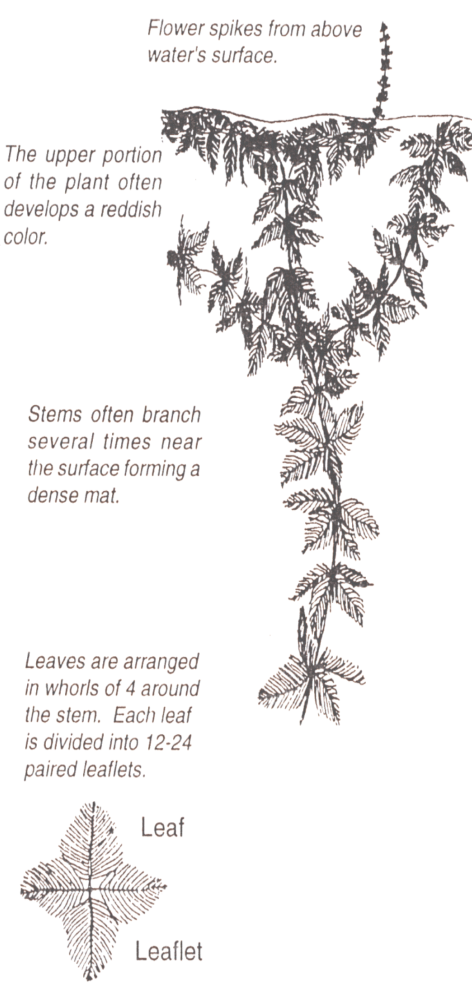
Watermilfoil alters rivers and lakes by reducing natural plant diversity, thus harming fish and wildlife habitat. Watermilfoil also invades fish spawning beds, clogs irrigation intake pipes, and hinders power generation.

In nutrient-rich lakes, it can form thick underwater stands of tangled stems and vast mats of vegetation at the water's surface. By midsummer it forms a "mat" so dense it restricts swimming, boating and fishing.

HOW DOES WATERMILFOIL GET STARTED?

Watermilfoil reproduces by a process called "fragmentation." Milfoil plants easily break into small pieces and each piece can form roots. A single whisp can multiply into 250 million new plants in one year. Milfoil is readily spread between lakes and rivers by boaters carrying plant fragments on their boats and trailers.

How to identify eurasian milfoil.



Control methods: Aside from herbicide treatments, other methods are successful, including harvesting, handpulling (try to contain fragments), rotating underwater tillage, installation of bottom barriers, and other harvesting or pulling.

Food Storage and Sanitation

Your safety is important! Proper food storage will help keep you and others safe by avoiding encounters with animals and preventing animals from being attracted to areas frequented by people.

All items that might attract animals should be stored where animals cannot access them at night and during the daytime. Someone should be physically present within 100 feet and in direct sight of the food.

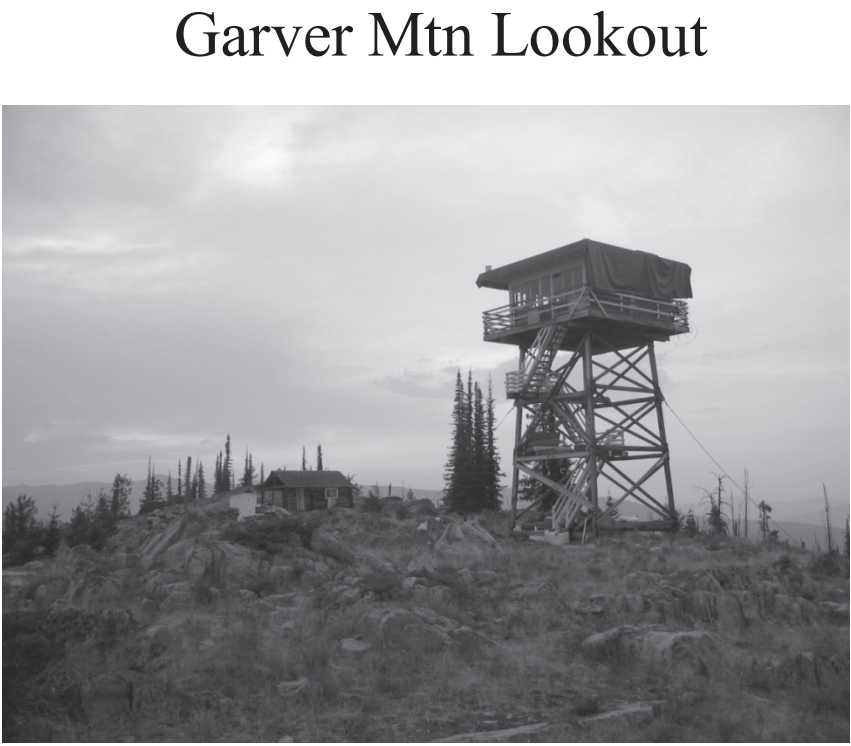
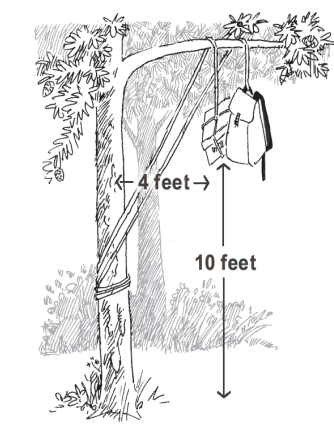
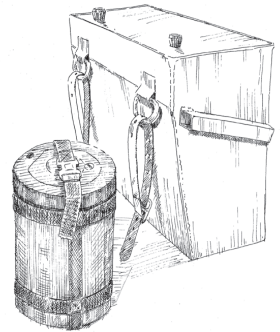
These items must be properly stored: Human food, (including canned food, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages), harvested game animals, pet food, processed livestock feed and grains, and personal hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste and deodorants. This also includes garbage and empty food and beverage containers.

Proper storage methods:

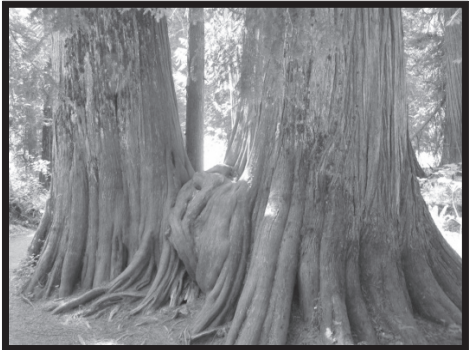
- Proper storage includes placing food and other items in -
- ☐ bear resistant containers
 - ☐ hard-sided vehicles
 - ☐ suspending them at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet from any vertical support.

Bear resistant containers: Bear resistant containers include the heavy metal boxes placed in campgrounds and other approved containers such as bear resistant horse panniers and backpackers' containers that are certified through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Courtesy Inspection Program.

NOTE: Plastic or metal food coolers, backpacks and leather or canvas horse panniers are NOT bear resistant.



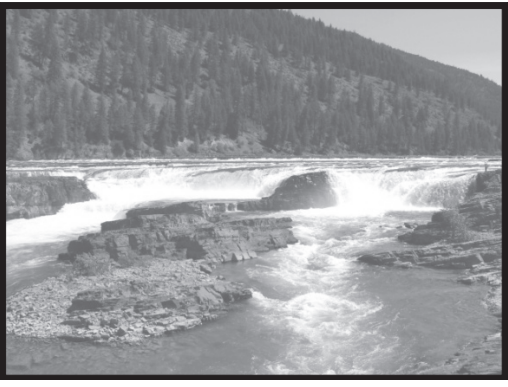
This 40' lookout, sits at an elevation of 5874' and has been used as an observation point for spotting fires since 1929. It is equipped with a woodstove and two bunks with mattresses. There is no indoor plumbing or fresh water supply. Is is usually available by June 15th thru October 1st., snow conditions permitting. Due to tower height we discourage bringing children.



Ross Creek Cedars – Giant Cedar Grove
Ross Creek Cedars is accessed off of the Bull Lake Highway. The road to Ross Creek Cedars is located at the south end of Bull Lake, off Hwy 56. There is a 1 mile interpretive trail through the Cedars with benches located along the trail. There are picnic sites located at the parking area and public restrooms are available. Seasonal due to weather: estimated open dates are May 20th to October 15th

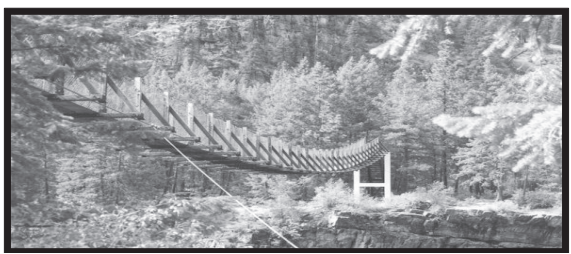
Old Highway 2 - Interpretive Trail - Scenic Viewing

Old Highway 2 is a 2.3 mile hike along the old Highway route above the Kootenai River. Interpretive signs and benches are located along the trail. Scenic view of the Kootenai River and Kootenai River Valley.



Kootenai Falls - Scenic Viewing

Kootenai Falls is located on U.S. Highway 2 between Troy and Libby. Opportunities include scenic views, hiking, picnicking and a swinging bridge across the Kootenai River.



Yaak Falls - Scenic Viewing

Yaak Falls is located at the 7 mile marker on the Yaak River Hwy. There is a pullout with viewing form the parking area and also a short hiking trail located in the Yaak River Campground that leads to the lower falls area. Spectacular viewing, use caution during high water.

West Fork Yaak Falls - Scenic Viewing

West Fork Yaak Falls is located on Forest Road 92 at the 39 mile marker. A short hike leads up to the viewing platform at the falls.



Callahan Interpretive Trail -Interpretive Trail - Scenic Viewing

This trail is located 1.5 miles up Callahan Creek Road off of Highway 2 at the town of Troy. The trail runs along the old railroad grade that was used for mining and logging. Interpretive signs and benches are located along the trail.